

CLAIMS

1. Isolated polypeptide,

which is identical or similar to a protein that occurs naturally in human epidermal keratinocytes and is upwardly adjusted, specifically increasingly expressed when the keratinocytes are in an activated state characterized by an elevated expression of the activation markers uPA and uPA-R, and

which has the amino acid sequence indicated in either the SEQ ID NO:3 or SEQ ID NO:4 or SEQ ID NO:6 or SEQ ID NO:8 sequence protocol, or an allele or derivative obtained through amino acid substitution, deletion, insertion or inversion from the latter,

wherein SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6 and/or SEQ ID NO: 8 are a constituent of this claim,

and wherein the amino acid sequences obtained through amino acid substitution, deletion, insertion or inversion as an allele or derivative are suitable for influencing cell morphology, cell proliferation, cell adhesion, cell migration and/or cell differentiation.

2. Isolated nucleic acid,

that codes a protein according to claim 1,

and that has the nucleotide sequence indicated in either the SEQ ID NO:1 sequence protocol or the SEQ ID NO:7 sequence protocol or a nucleotide sequence complementary to one of these two

or a partial sequence of one of these two nucleotide sequences,

or a nucleotide sequence that hybridizes wholly or in part with one of these aforementioned nucleotide sequences, wherein SEQ ID NO: 1 and SEQ ID NO: 7 are constituents of this claim.

3. Isolated nucleic acid according to claim 2, characterized by the fact that this nucleic acid is obtained from a natural, synthetic or half-synthetic source.
4. Isolated nucleic acid according to claim 2 or 3, characterized by the fact that this nucleic acid is a cDNA.
5. Isolated nucleic acid according to one of claims 2 or 3, characterized by the fact that this nucleic acid is a sense or antisense oligonucleotide, which encompasses at least 6, preferably 8 to 25 nucleotides, and hybridizes with the nucleotide sequence indicated in sequence protocol SEQ ID NO:1 or sequence protocol SEQ ID NO:7 or partial sequences thereof.
6. Isolated nucleic acid according to one of claims 2 or 3, characterized by the fact that this nucleic acid is a splice variant, which hybridizes with the nucleotide sequence indicated in sequence protocol SEQ ID NO:1 or in sequence protocol SEQ ID NO:7.
7. Isolated nucleic acid according to claim 6, characterized by the fact that this nucleic acid is a splice variant, which has the nucleotide sequence indicated in sequence protocol SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 5.

8. Isolated polypeptide, characterized in that it has an amino acid sequence resulting from a splice variant of an mRNA, which

has either the nucleotide sequence indicated in sequence protocol SEQ ID NO:1 or in sequence protocol SEQ ID NO:7, or the nucleotide sequence complementary to one of these two, or a partial sequence of one of these nucleotide sequences,

or a nucleotide sequence that hybridizes wholly or in part with one of these nucleotide sequences,

that it is upwardly adjusted in activated human epidermal keratinocytes showing an elevated expression of the activation markers uPA and uPA-R,

and that it is suitable for influencing cell morphology, cell proliferation, cell adhesion, cell migration and/or cell differentiation.
9. Isolated polypeptide, characterized by the fact that it has an amino acid sequence resulting from a splice variant of an mRNA, which has the nucleotide sequence indicated in sequence protocol SEQ ID NO:2 or sequence protocol SEQ ID NO:5.
10. Isolated polypeptide according to claim 9, characterized by the fact that it has the amino acid sequence indicated in sequence protocol SEQ ID NO:4 or sequence protocol SEQ ID NO:6, wherein SEQ ID NO:4 and SEQ ID NO:6 are constituents of this claim.
11. Recombinant DNS vector molecule, which encompasses a nucleic acid according to one of claims 2 to 7, and which has the ability to express a protein that occurs

in human keratinocytes and is increasingly expressed in activated keratinocytes, in a prokaryotic or eukaryotic cell.

12. Recombinant DNS vector molecule according to claim 11, characterized by the fact that the vector molecule is a derivative of the plasmid pUEX-1 or plasmid pGEX-2T or plasmid pCDNA3.1.
13. Recombinant DNS vector molecule according to claim 12, characterized by the fact that the vector molecule is a construct according to the vector protocol on Fig. 2 or the vector protocol on Fig. 3, wherein these vector protocols on Fig. 2 and Fig. 3 are constituents of this claim.
14. Transformed host cell containing a nucleic acid according to one of claims 2 to 7, which is coupled with an activatable promotor contained in the host cell naturally or as the consequence of a recombination, and which has the ability to express a protein that occurs in human keratinocytes and is increasingly expressed in activated keratinocytes.
15. Transformed host cell according to claim 14, characterized by the fact that the promotor is the cytokeratin-14 promotor and the host cell is a keratinocyte, or that the promotor is the CMV promotor and the host cell is a cos cell.
16. Use of a nucleic acid according to claim 2 or a vector molecule according to one of claims 11 to 13 for manufacturing transgenic mammals.

17. Use of a polypeptide according to claim 1 or claim 8 for manufacturing an antibody against this polypeptide and/or proteins related thereto.
18. Use according to claim 17, characterized by the fact that the antibody is used for the diagnostic and/or therapeutic treatment in particular of dermatological diseases, or for the cosmetic treatment.
19. Antibody that reacts specifically with a polypeptide according to claim 1 or claim 8.
20. Reagent for the indirect detection of a protein that occurs in human keratinocytes and is increasingly expressed in activated keratinocytes, characterized by the fact that the reagent is manufactured using at least one nucleic acid according to one of claims 2 to 6 and/or a polypeptide according to claim 1 or claim 8.
21. Use of a sense or antisense oligonucleotide according to claim 5 or claim 6 for the diagnostic and/or therapeutic treatment in particular of dermatological diseases, or for cosmetic treatment.
22. Use of a polypeptide according to claim 1 or claim 8 or a nucleic acid according to claim 2 for identifying substances with medical, cosmetic or pharmacological applications, which bind to the polypeptide or nucleic acid, and thereby influence its function and/or expression.